

MAT

He look'd a lion with a gloomy stare,
And o'er his eye-brows hung his matted hair.
The spleen consisteth of muscular fibres, all matted, as in
the skin, but in more open work.
MA'TADORE. n. f. [matador, a murderer, Spanish.] A hand
of cards so called from its efficacy against the adverse player.
Now move to war her sable matadores,
In show like leaders of the swarthy Moors.
MATACHIN. n. f. [French.] An old dance.
Who ever saw a matachin dance to imitate fighting: this
was a fight that did imitate the matachin; for they being but
three that fought, every one had two adversaries striking him
who struck the third.
MATCH. n. f. [mieche, French; miccia, Italian; probably
from mica, to shine, Latin: surely not, as Skinner conjectures,
from the Saxon maca, a companion, because a match is
companion to a gun.] Any thing that catches fire; generally
a card, rope, or small chip of wood dipped in melted sul-
phur.
Try them in several bottles matches, and see which of them
last longest without flench.
He made use of her trees as of matches to set Druina a fire.
Being willing to try something that would not cherish much
fire at once, and would keep fire much longer than a coal,
we took a piece of match, such as soldiers use.
2. [From μάχη, a fight, or from maca, Saxon, one equal to
another.] A contest; a game; any thing in which there is
contest or opposition.
Shall we play the wantons with our woes,
And make some pretty match with shedding tears? *Shakefp.*
The goat was mine, by singing fairly won.
A solemn match was made; he lost the prize. *Dryden.*
3. [From maca, Saxon.] One equal to another; one able to
contest with another.
Government mitigates the inequality of power among par-
ticular persons, and makes an innocent man, though of the
lowest rank, a match for the mightiest of his fellow-subjects.
The old man has met with his match.
The natural flame that attends vice, makes them zealous
to encourage themselves by numbers, and form a party against
religion: it is with pride they survey their increasing strength,
and begin to think themselves a match for virtue.
4. One that suits or tallies with another.
5. A marriage.
The match
Were rich and honourable; besides, the gentleman
Is full of virtue, bounty, worth, and qualities,
Beseeming such a wife as your fair daughter. *Shakefp.*
Love doth seldom suffer itself to be confined by other matches
than those of its own making.
With him she strove to join Lavinia's hand,
But dire portents the purpos'd match withstand. *Dryden.*
6. One to be married.
She inherited a fair fortune of her own, and was very rich
in a personal estate, and was looked upon as the richest match
of the West.
To MATCH. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To be equal to.
No settled senses of the world can match
The pleasure of that madness. *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*
O thou good Kent, how shall I live and work
To match thy goodness? life will be too short,
And every measure fall me. *Shakefp. King Lear.*
2. To shew an equal.
No history or antiquity can match his policies and his con-
duct.
3. To equal; to oppose.
Eternal might
To match with their inventions they presum'd
So easy, and of his thunder made a scorn. *Milton.*
What though his heart be great, his actions gallant,
He wants a crown to poise against a crown,
Birth to match birth, and power to balance power. *Dryden.*
The shepherd's calendar of Spenser is not to be matched in
any modern language.
4. To suit; to proportion.
Let poets match their subject to their strength,
And often try what weight they can support.
Mine have been still
Match'd with my birth; a younger brother's hopes. *Rew.*
Employ their wit and humour in chusing and matching of
patterns and colours.
5. To marry; to give in marriage.
Great king,
I would not from your love make such a fray;
To match you where I hate. *Shakefp. King Lear.*
Thou dost profess thy love, and would'st it show
By matching her, as she would match her foe. *Donne.*

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Them willingly they would have still retain'd,
And match'd unto the prince.
When a man thinks himself match'd to one who should be
a comfort to him, instead thereof he finds in his bosom a
beast.
A senator of Rome, while Rome surviv'd,
Would not have match'd his daughter with a king. *Addison.*
To MATCH. *v. n.*
1. To be married.
A thing that may luckily fall out to him that hath the blef-
sing to match with some heroic-minded lady. *Shakefp.*
I hold it a sin to match in my kindred. *Shakefp.*
Let tigers match with hinds, and wolves with sheep.
And every creature couple with his foe. *Dryd. Sp. Fryer.*
All creatures else are much unworthy thee,
They match'd, and thou alone art left for me. *Dryden.*
2. To suit; to be proportionate; to tally.
MATCHABLE. *adj.* [from match.]
1. Suitable; equal; fit to be joined.
Ye, whose high worths surpassing Paragon,
Could not on earth have found one fit for mate,
Ne but in heaven matchable to none,
Why did ye stoop unto so lowly state? *Spenser, Sonnet 66.*
2. Correspondent.
Those at land that are not matchable with any upon our
shores, are of those very kinds which are found no where but
in the deepest parts of the sea. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*
MATCHLESS. *adj.* [from match.] Without an equal.
This happy day two lights are seen,
A glorious faint, a matchless queen. *Waller.*
Much less, in arms, oppose thy matchless force,
When thy sharp spurs shall urge thy foaming horse. *Dryd.*
MATCHLESSLY. *n. f.* In a manner not to be equalled.
MATCHLESSNESS. *n. f.* [from matchless.] State of being with-
out an equal.
MATCHMAKER. *n. f.* [match and make.]
1. One who contrives marriages.
You came to him to know
If you should carry me, or no;
And would have hir'd him and his imps,
To be your matchmakers and pimps. *Hudibras, p. iii.*
2. One who makes matches to burn.
MATE. *n. f.* [maca, Saxon; mats, Dutch.]
1. A husband or wife.
I that am frail flesh and earthly weight,
Unworthy match for such immortal mate,
Myself well wote, and mine unequal mate. *Pope.*
2. A companion, male or female.
Go, base intruder! over-weening slave!
Beset thy fawning smiles on equal mates. *Shakefp.*
In top of all design, my mate in empire,
Friend and companion in the front of war. *Shakefp.*
You knew me once no mate
For you; there sitting where you durst not soar. *Milton.*
Damon, behold yon breaking purple cloud;
Hear'st thou not hymns and songs divinely loud:
There mounts Amyntas, the young cherubs play
About their godlike mate, and sing him on his way. *Dryd.*
Leave thy bride alone:
Go, leave her with her maiden mates to play
At sports more harmless, till the break of day. *Dryden.*
3. The male or female of animals.
Part single, or with mate;
Grazes the sea-weed their pasture, and through groves
Of coral stray. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. vii.*
Pliny tells us, that elephants know no copulation with any
other than their own proper mate. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*
4. One that fails in the same ship.
What vengeance on the passing fleet she pour'd,
The master frighted, and the mates devour'd. *Reynolds.*
5. One that eats at the same table.
The second in subordination; as, the master's mate; the
chirurgion's mate.
To MATE. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To match; to marry.
Ensample make of him your hapless joy,
And of myself now mated as you see,
Whose prouder vaunts, that proud avenging boy,
Did soon pluck down, and curb'd my liberty. *Fairy Qu.*
The hind, that would be mated by the lion,
Must die for love. *Shakefp. All's well that ends well.*
2. To be equal to.
Some from feeds inclos'd on earth arise,
For thus the matchless chestnut mates the skies. *Dryden.*
Parnassus is its name; whose forky rife
Mounts through the clouds, and mates the lofty skies:
High on the summit of this dubious cliff,
Deucalion wafting moor'd his little skiff. *Dryden.*
3. To

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To oppose; to equal.
I'll try way of loyalty and truth,
Dare mate a founder man than Surrey can be,
And all that love his follies. *Shakefp.*
4. [Mater, French; mator, Spanish.] To subdue; to con-
found; to crush.
That is good deceit
Which mates him first, that first intends deceit. *Shakefp.*
The great effects that may come of industry and per-
severance who knoweth not? For audacity doth almost bind
and mate the weaker sort of minds. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
My sense she has mated, and amaz'd my sight. *Shakefp.*
Why this is strange; go call the abbess hither;
I think you are all mated, or stark mad. *Shakefp.*
MATERIAL. *adj.* [material, French; materialis, Latin.]
1. Consisting of matter; corporeal; not spiritual.
When we judge, our minds we mirrors make,
And as those glasses which material be,
Forms of material things do only take,
For thoughts or minds in them we cannot see. *Davies.*
That these trees of life and knowledge were material trees,
though figures of the law and the gospel, it is not doubted
by the most religious and learned writers. *Raleigh.*
2. Important; momentous; essential.
We must propose unto all men certain petitions incident,
and very material in causes of this nature. *Hooker, b. v.*
Hold them for Catholics, or heretics, it is not a thing
either one way or another, in this present question, material.
Hooker, b. iv.
What part of the world soever we fall into, the ordinary
use of this very prayer hath, with equal continuance, ac-
companied the fame, as one of the principal and most mate-
rial duties of honour due to Christ. *Hooker, b. v.*
It may discover some secret meaning and intent therein,
very material to the state of that government. *Spenser.*
The question is not, whether you allow or disallow that
book, neither is it material. *Whitgift.*
He would not stay at your petitions made;
His business more material. *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*
Neither is this a question of words, but infinitely material
in nature. *Bacon's Nat. Hist. No. 98.*
I pass the rest, whose ev'ry race and name,
And kinds are less material to my theme. *Dryden's Virg.*
As for the more material faults of writing, though I see
many of them, I want leisure to amend them. *Dryden.*
I shall, in the account of simple ideas, set down only such
as are most material to our present purpose. *Locke.*
In this material point, the constitution of the English go-
vernment far exceeds all others. *Swift.*
MATERIALS. *n. f.* [this word is scarcely used in the singular;
materials, French.] The substance of which any thing is
made.
The West-Indians, and many nations of the Africans,
finding means and materials, have been taught, by their own
necessities, to pass rivers in a boat of one tree. *Raleigh.*
Intending an accurate enumeration of medical materials,
the omission hereof affords some probability it was not used
by the ancients. *Brown's Vulg. Errors, b. i.*
David, who made such rich provision of materials for the
building of the temple, because he had dipt his hands in blood,
was not permitted to lay a stone in that sacred pile. *South.*
That lamp in one of the heathen temples the art of man
might make of some such material as the stone abettus, which
being once enkindled will burn without being consumed. *Wilk.*
The materials of that building very fortunately ranged
themselves into that delicate order, that it must be a very
great chance that parts them.
Simple ideas, the materials of all our knowledge, are sug-
gested to the mind only by sensation and reflection. *Locke.*
Such a fool was never found,
Who pull'd a palace to the ground,
Only to have the ruins made
Materials for an house decay'd. *Swift's Miscel.*
MATERIALIST. *n. f.* [from material.] One who denies spi-
ritual substances.
He was bent upon making Memmius a materialist. *Dryd.*
MATERIALITY. *n. f.* [materialité, Fr. from material.] Cor-
pority; material existence; not spirituality.
Considering that corporeity could not agree with this uni-
versal subsistent nature, abstracting from all materiality in his
ideas, and giving them an actual subsistence in nature, he
made them like angels, whose essences were to be the essence,
and to give existence to corporeal individuals; and so each
idea was embodied in every individual of its species. *Digby.*
MATERIALLY. *adv.* [from material.]
1. In the state of matter.
I do not mean, that any thing is separable from a body by
fire that was not materially pre-existent in it. *Boyle.*
2. Not formally.
Though an ill intention is certainly sufficient to spoil and

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corrupt an act in itself materially good, yet no good intention
whatsoever can rectify or infuse a moral goodness into an act
otherwise evil. *South's Sermons.*
3. Importantly; essentially.
All this concerneth the customs of the Irish very materially;
as well to reform those which are evil, as to confirm and con-
tinue those which are good. *Spenser on Ireland.*
MATERIALNESS. *n. f.* [from material.] State of being mate-
rial; importance.
MATERIALITY. *adj.* [materialis, Latin.] Consisting of mat-
ter; materiality. *ter.*
After long enquiry of things immerse in matter, interpose
some subject which is immaterial or less material, such as
this of sounds, to the end that the intellect may be rectified,
and become not partial. *Bacon's Nat. Hist. No. 114.*
MATERIA'TION. *n. f.* [from materia, Lat.] The act of form-
ing matter.
Creation is the production of all things out of nothing; a
formation not only of matter but of form, and a materiation
even of matter itself. *Brewer.*
MATERIAL. *adj.* [materie, Fr. maternus, Lat.] Motherly;
befitting or pertaining to a mother.
The babe had all that infant care beguiles,
And early knew his mother in her smiles:
At his first aptness the maternal love
Those rudiments of reason did improve. *Dryden.*
MATERNITY. *n. f.* [maternité, French, from materius, Lat.]
The character or relation of a mother.
MATHELON. *n. f.* [mattre, to kill, and felon, a thief.] A
species of knap-weed growing wild.
MATHEMATICAL. *adj.* [mathematicus, Lat.] Considered
MATHEMATICK. } according to the doctrine of the
mathematicians.
The East and West,
Upon the globe, a mathematick point
Only divides: thus happiness and misery,
And all extremes, are still contiguous. *Denham's Sophy.*
It is as impossible for an aggregate of finites to comprehend
or exhaust one infinite, as it is for the greatest number of ma-
thematick points to amount to, or constitute a body. *Boyle.*
I suppose all the particles of matter to be situated in an
exact and mathematical evenness. *Bentley's Sermon.*
MATHEMATICALLY. *adv.* [from mathematick.] According to
the laws of the mathematical sciences.
We may be mathematically certain, that the heat of the
sun is according to the density of the sun-beams, and is reci-
procally proportional to the square of the distance from the
body of the sun. *Bentley's Sermons.*
MATHEMATICIAN. *n. f.* [mathematicus, Lat. mathematicien,
French.] A man versed in the mathematics.
One of the most eminent mathematicians of the age assured
me, that the greatest pleasure he took in reading Virgil was
in examining Aeneas's voyage by the map. *Addison's Spect.*
MATHEMATICKS. *n. f.* [μαθηματικά.] That science which
contemplates whatever is capable of being numbered or mea-
sured; and it is either pure or mixt: pure considers abstract-
ed quantity, without any relation to matter; mixt is inter-
woven with physical considerations. *Harris.*
The mathematicks and the metaphysicks
Fall to them, as you find your stomach serves you. *Shak.*
See myfety to mathematicks fly. *Pope.*
MATHE. *n. f.* An herb. *Ans.*
MATHE'SIS. *n. f.* [μάθησις.] The doctrine of mathematicks.
Mad Mathesis alone was unconfin'd. *Pope.*
MATIN. *adj.* [matine, French; matutinus, Latin.] Morning;
used in the morning.
Up rose the victor angels, and to arms
The matin trumpet fung. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. vi.*
I waste the matin lamp in sighs for thee;
Thy image steals between my god and me. *Pope.*
MATIN. *n. f.* Morning.
The glow-worm shews the matin to be near,
And gins to pale his ineffectual fire. *Shakefp.*
MATINS. *n. f.* [matines, French.] Morning worship.
The winged choristers began
To chirp their matins.
By the pontifical, no altar is consecrated without reliques;
the vigils are celebrated before them, and the nocturn and
matins, for the faints whose the reliques are. *Stillingfleet.*
That he should raise his mixt crest on high,
And clap his wings, and call his family
To sacred rites; and vex th' ethereal powers
With midnight matins, at uncivil hours. *Dryden.*
MATRASS. *n. f.* [matras, French.]
Matrass is the name of a chemical glass vessel made for
digestion or distillation, being sometimes bellied, and some-
times rising gradually taper into a conical figure. *Quincy.*
Protect from violent storms, and the too parching darts of
the sun, your pennach'd tulips and ranunculus, covering
them with matrasses. *Evelyn's Kalendar.*

MA'TRICE.